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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kenji NISHI

Group Art Unit: 2851

Application No.: 09/628,310

Examiner: D. Esplin

Filed: July 28, 2000

Docket No.: 106827

For: EXPOSURE METHOD AND APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

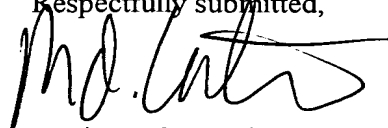
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our Check No. 147676 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 15-0461 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☒ 3. The reference was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/ccs

Date: October 24, 2003

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**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 106827		APPLICATION NO. 09/628,310	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Kenji NISHI			
				FILING DATE July 28, 2000		GROUP 2851	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		5,657,130	08-1997	Shirasu et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							